

FELLOWSHIP OF EVANGELISTS AND MINISTERS



Beginners Bible Course

Introduction

This course will enable you to have a working knowledge of the major themes of the books of the Bible. You could complete this course using only the Bible, but you might find other material such as a Bible Handbook, Concordance or Commentary useful in your research. A list of books can be found at the back of this study. Your local public library or your pastor may have several volumes, which could be of assistance to you.

When you complete each section of the study, please mail or email it to your assigned tutor for marking, he or she will endeavour to return it to you as soon as possible. You will find your tutor's details on the front of the study booklet. Do not hesitate to contact him or her if you require help or have questions arising from this course.

Just relax and work through this course in your own time and pace; there is no need for you to hurry through it. It is the prayer of the Fellowship of Evangelists and Ministers that this course will bless, encourage and edify you as you seek to know more of God's wonderful and inspiring Word.

Section One

This section covers the first five books of the Bible. These five books were written by Moses and are otherwise known as the 'Pentateuch.'

The Book of Genesis

1. State why you believe that it is vital to take the Genesis account of Creation literally?
2. What does the Book of Genesis teach us about sin, Salvation and Faith?
3. Submit a short character outline of Noah, Abraham or Jacob.

The Book of Exodus

1. Write a short account of the "Plan of Redemption" typified in Exodus.
2. Write a brief essay on how God prepared Moses for his leadership (refer to Acts 7 and Hebrews 3).

3. (a) Outline the events from Israel's the crossing of the Red Sea to their arrival at Sinai.
- (b) Can you think of any New Testament comparisons can be drawn from these events?

The Book of Leviticus

1. Leviticus is the book of "Feasts". What significance do they have for us as Christians today?
2. Please list the Feasts and offer a brief outline of what was performed during them.

The Book of Numbers

1. Write something about God's purpose for the Cities of Refuge?
2. Submit a short essay with the title, "God's Goodness and Severity", as illustrated in events recorded in the Book of Numbers.
3. Briefly describe who the Levites were, their office and their duties.

The Book of Deuteronomy

1. Submit a short essay on "The Greatest Commandment" using Deuteronomy 6:4-5 as your text.
2. Write a brief 'Book Review' on the Book of Deuteronomy.
3. What can we learn about God's Faithfulness in this book?

Section 2

This section of studies is designed to give you a broad knowledge of the Books of Joshua, Judges, Ruth and Esther.

1. Offer a character assessment of Joshua, including his training for his future leadership of Israel.
2. What do you learn from the lifestyle and customs of the Jewish people in the era of the Judges and Ruth?
3. Who do you consider to be the author of the Book of Judges? (State your reasons).
4. Which of the Judges interest you the most? Why is this?
5. The name or title "God" is not mentioned in the Book of Esther. How could you prove that Queen Esther knew and loved the Lord?

Section 3

This section deals with the study of the Historical books of the Old Testament, which are Samuel, Kings and Chronicles.

1. Write a brief essay on the life and ministry of Samuel.
2. Scripture records that both Saul and David fell into gross sin. Both equally acknowledged this. Why was only one of them restored to favour with God?
3. Why was the prophet Elisha a worthy successor of Elijah, and what did his desire for a double portion mean?
4. What was the great sin of King Jeroboam?

Section 4

This section involves the Prophetic Books of the Bible. Here you will study the Major Prophets, which are, Ezekiel, Daniel, Jeremiah and Isaiah.

1. Give a brief explanation of the following truths found in Isaiah (include references):-
 - a) The Virgin Birth of Christ.
 - b) The Sacrificial Death of Christ.
 - c) The Bodily Resurrection of Christ.
 - d) The future Second Advent and Millennial Reign of Christ.
2. What does Isaiah tell us about his own home life, surroundings, character and calling?
3. Write a short essay on the Prophet Jeremiah incorporating the following:-
 - a) His calling.
 - b) His character.
 - c) His suffering.
4. The Prophet Ezekiel describes his vision of the 'valley of dry bones', but what was it meant to teach Israel, and what can we learn from the vision today?
5. Explain the meaning of the Great Image of Nebuchadnezzar's dream found in the book of Daniel.

Section 5

Now that you have studied the Major Prophets you should spend some time reading what are called "the Minor Prophets". This section includes Ezra and Nehemiah.

1. Choose just one of the following write a short essay on it.
 - a) What reference does Hosea make to the past history of Israel?
 - b) The Life and Ministry of the Prophet Hosea.
2. What were the chief sins of Israel that the Prophet Amos was called to denounce?
3. Describe at least three of the greatest accomplishments of Ezra.
4. It is said that Nehemiah was an ideal servant of God. Can you offer six reasons for this?
5. What are the spiritual implications of Malachi's prophecy?

Section 6

We now arrive at the New Testament. You should spend time reading through the Gospels in preparation for this section.

1. Offer a short outline of the Life and Ministry of the Lord Jesus Christ.
2. Write brief notes on the Life of John the Baptist.
3. What impact does the Mount have upon Christian living today (see Colossians 3:4-6)?
4. It is said that the Old Testament is incomplete. In what respect is its completion revealed?
5. Write a brief account of any two of the following events:-
 - a) The Feeding of the Five Thousand.

- b) The Turning of Water into Wine.
 - c) The Healing at Bethsaida.
 - d) Peter's Confession of Faith.
 - e) The Transfiguration of the Lord Jesus Christ.
6. Did Jesus ever claim to be God? Give Biblical proof for your answer.
 7. Outline the events leading up to the Death of Christ. Include details of the "Passion" of our Lord.
 8. Why is important is the Resurrection of Christ important to Christianity?

Section 7

This section involves the Acts of the Apostles. You may want to make reference to Paul's Epistles to supplement your work.

1. Give a brief account of either:-
 - a) The Conviction and Conversion of Saul of Tarsus.
 - b) The Outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost.
2. Write a short essay on Christianity's first martyr, Stephen.
3. Why did the religious leaders oppose the preaching and teaching of Paul?
4. Write brief notes on one of the following:-
 - a) Paul's arrest.
 - b) Paul's trial before the Sanhedrin.
 - c) The testimony of Paul to King Agrippa and Festus.
5. How many letters did Paul write while he was a prisoner in Rome? List them.
6. What was Paul's reason for his letter to the Ephesians?

Section 8

This section relates to the rest of the New Testament. Choose either one of the Letters or the Book of Revelation, and then write a brief essay incorporating the following subjects:

1. Why it was written.
2. What it has to say about the Lord Jesus Christ.
3. What it has to say about sin.
4. What it has to say about salvation.
5. What it has to say about the church.

You have now completed of the Beginners Bible Course. A certificate will be mailed to you after you receive your marks from the tutor. We at the Fellowship of Evangelists and Ministers pray that this course has both blessed and enriched you as you studied the Word of God. The Beginners Course was not designed as a comprehensive study in theology and doctrine. Our other Courses will introduce you to a deeper understanding of the Bible, therefore we invite you to apply for the next course – The Intermediate Course.